Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-8.   (Canceled)

9.   (New) A method of encoding a video sequence, comprising:

providing a first indication in an encoded bitstream, the first indication indicating whether or not all coded pictures at and subsequent to an intra-coded picture in display order can be correctly decoded when a decoding process is started from the intra-coded picture; and

encoding a first coded picture using motion-compensated prediction with reference to one or more previously coded reference pictures, the first picture having a display order prior to the intra-coded picture and an encoding order succeeding the intra-coded picture;

performing motion compensated prediction for at least part of a second picture with reference to the first coded picture.

10.   (New) A method according to claim 9, further comprising:

providing a second indication in the encoded bitstream, indicating whether or not the first coded picture can be correctly decoded when the decoding process is started from the intra-coded picture.

11.   (New) A method according to claim 9, wherein the first indication is provided in network abstraction layer unit-type syntax.

12.   (New) A method according to claim 9, wherein the first indication is provided in a picture header.

13.   (New) A method according to claim 9, wherein the first indication is provided in a slice header.

14.   (New) A method according to claim 9, further comprising providing an indication of a random access point using a sub-sequence identifier.

15.   (New) A method of encoding a video sequence, comprising:

providing, in an encoded bitstream, a first indication corresponding to an intra coded picture, the first indication indicating whether or not at least a part of at least one picture is encoded with reference to a picture preceding the intra coded picture in encoding order, the at least one picture having an encoding order succeeding the intra coded picture; and

performing motion compensated prediction for a second picture with reference to the at least one picture.

16.   (New) A method according to claim 15, wherein the first indication is provided in network abstraction layer unit-type syntax.

17.   (New) A method according to claim 15, wherein the first indication is provided in a picture header.

18.   (New) A method according to claim 15, wherein the first indication is provided in a slice header.

19.   (New) A method according to claim 15, providing an indication of a random access point using a sub-sequence identifier.

20.   (New) A method of decoding an encoded bitstream, comprising:

retrieving, from the encoded bitstream, a first indication corresponding to an intra-coded picture, the first indication indicating that all decoded coded pictures at and subsequent to the intra-coded picture in display order can be correctly decoded when a decoding process is started from the intra-coded picture; and

based on the decoded first indication, starting decoding from the intra-coded picture and subsequent pictures in display order.

21.   (New) A method according to claim 20, further comprising

decoding from the encoded bitstream a second indication corresponding to a first coded picture, the second indication indicating whether or not the first coded picture can be correctly decoded when decoding is started from the intra-coded picture,

discarding the first coded picture without decoding; and

continuing the decoding process with the encoded pictures succeeding the first coded picture in the decoding order.

22.   (New) A method according to claim 20, wherein the indication is retrieved from network abstraction layer unit-type syntax.

23.   (New) A method according to claim 20, wherein the indication is retrieved from a picture header.

24.   (New) A method according to claim 20, wherein the indication is retrieved from a slice header.

25.   (New) A method according to claim 20, wherein a random access location is determined by examining sub-sequence identifiers for encoded pictures.

26.   (New) A method of decoding an encoded bitstream, comprising:

retrieving, from the encoded bitstream, a first indication corresponding to an intra-coded picture, the first indication indicating whether or not at least a part of at least one picture is encoded with reference to a picture preceding the intra-coded picture in encoding order, the at least one picture having a decoding order succeeding the intra-coded picture, the at least one picture used as a reference picture for motion-compensated prediction for at least one other picture; and

based on the decoded first indication, starting decoding from the intra-coded picture and subsequent pictures in display order.

27.   A method according to claim 26, further comprising, if the indication indicates that at least a part of the at least one picture is encoded with reference to a picture preceding the intra-coded picture in encoding order:

discarding the at least one picture without decoding; and

continuing the decoding process with the encoded pictures succeeding the first picture in the decoding order.

28.   (New) A method according to claim 26, wherein the indication is retrieved from network abstraction layer unit-type syntax.

29.   (New) A method according to claim 26, wherein the indication is retrieved from a picture header.

30.   (New) A method according to claim 26, wherein the indication is retrieved from a slice header.

31.   (New) A method according to claim 26, wherein a random access location is determined by examining sub-sequence identifiers for encoded pictures.

32.   (New) A method of decoding an encoded bitstream, the method comprising:

receiving an indication corresponding to an intra-coded picture, the indication indicating whether or not at least a part of at least one picture is encoded with reference to a picture preceding the intra-coded picture in encoding order, the at least one picture having a decoding order succeeding the intra-coded picture, the at least one picture used as a reference picture for motion-compensated prediction for at least one other picture; and

based on the decoded indication, starting decoding from the intra-coded picture and subsequent pictures in display order.

33.   (New) A method according to claim 32, further comprising, if the indication indicates that at least a part of the at least one picture is encoded with reference to a picture preceding the intra-coded picture in encoding order:

discarding the at least one picture without decoding; and

continuing the decoding process with the encoded pictures succeeding the first picture in the decoding order.